

§157.38 Continuing Education

GETAC DRAFT 2– 8/13/2004

Legend:

Current Language - Normal font

New Language - Underscored

[Deleted Language] - Strikethrough, Bold & Brackets

Staff Recommendation

Legal Recommendation

RULE §157.38 Continuing Education

(a) – (d) (No change.)

(e) Types of Acceptable Continuing Education.

(1) (No change.)

(2) Continuing education contact hours applied toward EMS recertification or relicensure may be earned by participating in approved educational activities that are offered or sponsored by:

(A) A continuing education provider, approved under subsection (h) ~~[(f)]~~ of this section.

(B) – (E) (No change.)

(3) (No change.)

(f) Activities Unacceptable as Continuing Education. The following activities are not acceptable toward re-certification or re-licensure.

(1) – (7) (No change.)

(8) Any identical CE repeated ~~[more than once]~~ during the accrual period; ~~[(f)]~~ however, department approved nationally standardized courses may be repeated once during the 4 year certification period;

(g) - (h) (No change.)

(i) Additional Criteria for Specific Continuing Education Programs. In addition to those listed in subsection (h) of this section, the following guidelines shall apply to the selection and/or planning and implementation of specific CE programs.

(1) (No change.)

(2) Instructors/teachers. Certified or licensed EMS personnel, upon request by the department, shall provide documentation on the accredited institution's letterhead giving the

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name of program, location, dates, subjects taught, and total clock hours of teaching or instruction for all continuing education activity, including credit hour courses. Documentation may include course completion certificates, diplomas, and/or transcripts.

(3) (No change.)

(j) (No change.)

~~[(k) Audit.~~

~~(1) The department may audit the records of individuals seeking recertification through continuing education.~~

~~(2) The department may audit specific certified or licensed EMS personnel in response to a complaint, or if there is reason to suspect that the certified or licensed EMS personnel may have given false or inaccurate information about the continuing education requirements completed.~~

~~(3) An audit shall be automatic for certified or licensed EMS personnel who have been found non-compliant in an immediately preceding audit.~~

~~(4) Failure to notify the department of a current mailing address shall not absolve the certificant from audit requirements.~~

~~(5) Within 30 days following notification of audit, certified or licensed EMS personnel shall submit documentation as specified in subsection (j)(2) of this section and any additional documentation the department determines is necessary to verify compliance with continuing education requirements.~~

~~(6) The department may use on-site observation, audits of records, and other appropriate methods to evaluate the performance of continuing education providers. Evaluation of a continuing education provider may take place randomly, in response to a complaint, or if there is reason to suspect that a continuing education provider is not complying with the criteria established by subsections (h) and (i) of this section.~~

~~(7) Falsification of CE documentation shall be cause for reprimand, probation, suspension, or revocation of a certificate or license as described in §157.36 of this title (relating to Criteria for Denial and Disciplinary Actions for EMS Personnel and Voluntary Surrender of a Certificate or License).~~

~~(8) Falsification of CE documentation by a CE provider or failure to comply with the criteria established by subsections (h) and (i) of this section shall be cause for reprimand, probated suspension, suspension, or revocation of approval.]~~

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(Staff Note: Subsection on Audits removed to be included in separate, stand-alone rule covering all audit processes.)

(k) ~~(4)~~ For all applications and renewal applications, the department ~~[(or the board)]~~ is authorized to collect subscription and convenience fees, in amounts determined by the Texas Online Authority, to recover costs associated with application and renewal application processing through Texas Online.